

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING
April 5, 2023**

Call to Order: Chair Coless called the hybrid live/virtual meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Protocol for Hybrid Meetings: Chair Coless provided an overview of the protocols for public participation for members of the public attending the meeting virtually over Zoom.

Roll Call:

- a. The following members were in attendance: Chair Coless, Supervisors MacFarland (via Zoom), Neights and Sorgini. Vice Chair Darby was absent.
- b. Also in attendance were: E.J. Mentry, Township Manager; Mike Mrozinski, Community Development Director; Michael Jackson, Chief of Police; Joseph Chillano, Public Works Director; Michael Clarke, Township Solicitor; Casey Moore, Traffic Engineer and Ted Locker, Township Engineer.

Chairman's Comments

Chair Coless announced that there was an Executive Session held prior to the meeting discussing legal and personnel matters and that the Board would be adjourning to an Executive Session after the meeting.

Chair Coless read an Earth Month proclamation for April 2023.

1) Presentations

- A. Methacton Post Prom check presentation – The Township's annual donation was presented to Post prom co-chair Gabby Winters.
- B. Environmental Advisory Council updates – EAC Chair Erin McCool and council member Doug White presented 2022 accomplishments and activities and outlined priorities for 2023.

2) Consent Agenda

- A. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the consent agenda item 2(a), including moving the meeting minutes of March 16, 2023, into the record. Chair Coless seconded the motion.
 - a. There was no public comment.
 - b. The motion *passed* 4-0.

3) Public Hearing – Ordinance No. 677 – Zoning Ordinance Amendment

- A. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to open the hearing for the Zoning Ordinance Amendment. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
 - a. The motion *passed* 4-0.
 - b. Solicitor Clarke explained that the ordinance amendment cleans up language regarding consolidation of undersized lots and addresses ownership of multiple lots by one owner under differing names.
 - c. There was no public comment.

- B. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Supervisor Sorgini.
 - a. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- C. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 677. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - a. There was no public comment.
 - b. The motion *passed* 4-0.

4) Old Business

- A. Approval of Resolution 2023-19, amending 2023 Fee Schedule
 - a. Mr. Mentry stated the amendment to the fee schedule adopted in January cleans up some inconsistencies and duplication. Additionally, all previously submitted third-party consultant fee schedules, and fees for tree and bench donations have been incorporated into the schedule. New fees that have been added include a business license re-inspection fee and a missed inspection fee. The special event fee has been amended to specify its application to for-profits entities only.
 - b. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-19, amending 2023 Fee Schedule, seconded by Supervisor Neights.
 - c. There was no public comment.
 - d. The motion *passed* 4-0.
- B. Ridge Pike/Germantown Pike Realignment Project Streetlights
 - a. Mr. Mentry noted that the Board had previously indicated its preference to include sidewalks in PennDOT's project to realign Ridge and Germantown Pike, resulting in the inclusion of streetlights. Because of potential design issues in some locations with the streetlights not meeting PennDOT standards, the design team recommends submitting a design exception to PennDOT. The Board is being asked for concurrence on the submission. Mr. Mentry noted following the installation by PennDOT, the eventual operation and maintenance of the approximately 65 streetlights would be the Township's responsibility.
 - b. Supervisor Sorgini noted that it was an opportunity for the Township to take advantage of a tremendous capital investment.
 - c. Supervisor Neights expressed concern with light pollution.
 - d. Supervisor MacFarland asked Mr. Moore for clarification on sidewalk inclusion on Ridge and Germantown pikes and the streetlight standards. Mr. Moore confirmed that is common practice for the operation and maintenance of the streetlights to be the Township's responsibility.
 - e. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to instruct staff to advise PennDOT to proceed with the design exception request. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
 - f. There was no public comment.
 - g. The motion *passed* 4-0.

5) New Business

- A. Request for Waiver of Land Development, Lower Providence Presbyterian Church
 - a. Mr. Mrozinski said that the waiver request involves a minor improvement project adding a shed and carport. There would be no impact on stormwater.
 - b. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the waiver of Land Development for Lower Providence Presbyterian Church. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion. The Board will vote on a formal resolution at the next meeting.

- c. There was no public comment.
- d. The motion *passed* 4-0.

B. Request for Waiver of Land Development, Evansburg Vineyards

- a. Mr. Mrozinski said the waiver from Evansburg Vineyards involves the addition of 31 parking spots on stone and increasing and moving the rain garden.
- b. Mr. Locker addressed the supervisors' question regarding sheet flow design for stormwater.
- c. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the waiver of Land Development for Evansburg Vineyards. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion. The Board will vote on a formal resolution at the next meeting.
- d. There was no public comment.
- e. The motion *passed* 4-0.

C. Review of Land Development Plan for Tidal Wave Car Wash, 2619 Ridge Pike

- a. Mr. Mrozinski said the plan calls for the construction of a Tidal Wave Car Wash on a vacant parcel. The applicant has received zoning relief from the Township Zoning Hearing Board and received conditional use approval in June 2022 from the Board of Supervisors for the stand-alone car wash.
- b. Matt McHugh, representing Tidal Wave, stated that the applicant will comply with all items raised in the review letters. The project engineer provided an overview of the plan and clarified that there are two waivers sought from the review letters.
- c. There was discussion regarding light pollution, ingress and egress management, aesthetics and buffering, the possibility of electric vehicle charging stations, and queuing impact on traffic.

D. Award of 2023 Road Improvement Project Bid

- a. Mr. Mentry said the Township received three bids for the 2023 Road Improvement Project. Glasgow, Inc. was the low bidder at \$678,671.40, a portion of which will be assumed by the Sewer Authority for their work.
- b. Staff is requesting approval of budget adjustment because the amount budgeted for the project was approximately \$52,000 short. Mr. Mentry said the adjustment will be made up of carryover from last year and the liquid fuels allocation which was more than budgeted.
- c. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to award the 2023 Road Improvement Project Bid to Glasgow, Inc. and to approve the budget adjustment. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
- d. There was no public comment.
- e. The motion *passed* 4-0.

E. Audubon Water Company Reimbursement Agreement

- a. Mr. Mentry said the utility relocation reimbursement agreement with Audubon Water Company is part of the Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. intersection improvement project. The Township will reimburse Audubon Water Co. for their portion of work and the cost was included in the overall budget for the project. He said the agreement has been signed and executed by Audubon Water Co.
- b. It was noted that Audubon Water Co. had provided drawings as to the location of their water lines. Any costs incurred due to inaccurate utility line plans will be the responsibility of Audubon Water Co.

- c. **MOTION:** Supervisor Neights made a motion to approve the agreement. Supervisor Sorgini seconded the motion.
- d. There was no public comment.
- e. The motion *passed* 4-0.

F. Post-Construction Stormwater Management Plan, Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. Intersection Improvement Project.

- a. Mr. Mentry said the Board had previously approved a stormwater maintenance agreement with PennDOT and the Township is required to formally record the post-construction BMP operation and responsibility plan.
- b. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to approve the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Plan, Park Ave./Eagleville Rd./Crawford Rd. Intersection Improvement Project. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
- c. There was no public comment.
- d. The motion *passed* 4-0.

G. Opioid Settlement Opt-In

- a. Mr. Mentry said the Board had approved a similar opt-in last year for one of the national opioid settlements. This one includes Teva, Allergen, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart. The solicitor has reviewed the settlement. He said there is no cost or risk to the Township nor is there any guarantee that anything will be received.
- b. **MOTION:** Supervisor MacFarland made a motion to opt-in to the Opioid Settlement. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion.
- c. There was no public comment.
- d. The motion *passed* 4-0.

6) Announcements/Meetings

- The Administration Office will be closed Friday, April 7th and Monday, April 10th for the Easter holiday.
- Sewer Authority – April 10 at 4:30 p.m.
- Library Board – April 17 at 7:00 p.m.
- Environmental Advisory Council – April 17 at 7:00 p.m.
- Parks and Recreation Board – April 18 at 7:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission – April 26 at 7:00 p.m.
- Zoning Hearing Board – April 27 at 7:00 p.m.

7) Comments and Other Business

- a. Supervisor Sorgini thanked Jane Delaney, Karen Barron and Karen Hegedus from the Parks & Recreation and the Public Works Department for a successful Egg Hunt after it had to be rescheduled twice. He wished the community a Happy Easter and Happy Passover.
- b. Supervisor Neights said the EAC had discussed the Green Lane Sewer Facility and possible upgrades to the Oaks regional facility. He commented on the EPA's previous presentation on PFAS and spoke about the benefits of preventative and proactive measures. He said Gov. Shapiro toured the Emergency Operations Center in Eagleville where he presented his budget for 9-1-1, including increased staffing and more fire department funding. He said he'd been in contact with a business in Park Pointe that serves the neuro-diverse population that is bringing work back here from overseas.
- c. Supervisor MacFarland wished the residents a Happy Easter and Happy Passover.

- d. Chair Coless suggested that as a follow up to the DEP presentation she and Supervisors Sorgini would do fact-finding and report back to the Board to ensure DEP information is received. Material will also be posted on a water quality page on the EAC webpage.
- e. Mr. Mentry announced that there is a need for camp counselors for summer camp.

8) Courtesy of the Floor

A. No public comment

9) Adjournment

A. **MOTION:** Supervisor Sorgini made a motion to adjourn. Supervisor Neights seconded the motion. The motion *passed* 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next Business Meetings: April 20, 2023
May 4, 2023